Support for CPD in more remote areas available in Round 6 of RHCE2

Online applications can be made between 3 February to 3 March for grants in Round 6 of the Rural Health Continuing Education Stream Two (RHCE2).

The RHCE2 program provides grants on a competitive basis to support access to Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for allied health professionals, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers, nurses and midwives, and GPs in more remote areas.

Around $530,000 is available in Round 6 for programs that can provide cost-effective and accessible CPD for health professionals already practising in a rural or remote setting.

The proposals most likely to succeed will be those that can demonstrate a need for additional support for CPD for members of a multidisciplinary health care team in a more remote area.

RHCE2 is managed for the Department of Health by the National Rural Health Alliance (NRHA).

“The Alliance is pleased to see RHCE2 extended for 2015,” said Gordon Gregory, CEO of the NRHA. “Rural and remote practice, while rewarding, also presents a challenge when it comes to continuing professional development. RHCE2 grants help overcome the barrier of distance by allowing organisations to conduct and, if necessary, develop CPD programs for health care teams in rural and remote areas”.

Multiple applications will be accepted from individual agencies but only one grant per entity will be awarded.

Applications should provide evidence of how the work to be undertaken will encourage inter-professional learning and teamwork in rural and remote health services. They must also demonstrate how the proposed program will be sustainable and have a positive effect on the recruitment and retention of health professionals in more remote areas,

Full details of the program, application guidelines and information on the online application process are available at http://rhce.ruralhealth.org.au. For additional information, contact Wendy Downs, RHCE2 Program Manager, on 1800 987 440.

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